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|--|-------------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.          | CONFIRMATION NO.       |
| 10/655,692   | 09/05/2003  | Akiyoshi Hashimoto   | 16869S-093900US              | 6495                   |
| 20350 7590 12/13/2007<br>TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP<br>TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER<br>EIGHTH FLOOR<br>SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834 |             |                      | EXAMINER<br>WHIPPLE, BRIAN P |                        |
|  |             |                      | ART UNIT<br>2152             | PAPER NUMBER           |
|  |             |                      | MAIL DATE<br>12/13/2007      | DELIVERY MODE<br>PAPER |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



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|---------------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------|
| 10655692                        | 9/5/2003    | HASHIMOTO, AKIYOSHI                               | 16869S-093900US     |

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| EXAMINER |
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TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP  
TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER  
EIGHTH FLOOR  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834

Brian P. Whipple

| ART UNIT | PAPER |
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20071209

DATE MAILED:

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

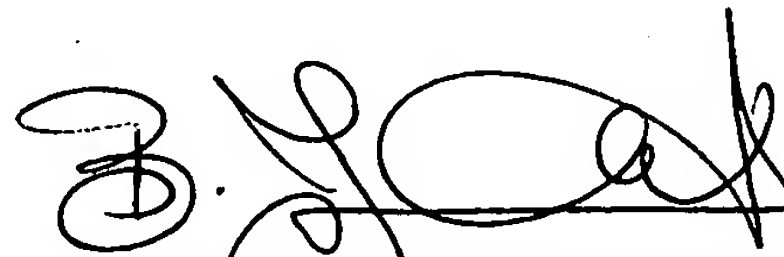
**Commissioner for Patents**

The reply filed on 11/26/2007 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicant does not indicate how newly presented claim 15 overcomes the prior art references. MPEP 714.02 states that, "[t]he reply must present arguments pointing out the specific distinctions believed to render the claims, including any newly presented claims, patentable over any applied references." See 37 CFR 1.111.

Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian P. Whipple whose telephone number is (571) 270-1244. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:30 AM to 5:00 PM EST). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Brian P. Whipple  
12/9/07

  
BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

12/10/7